birth, and among these factors Southern Italy must take its full part. The mightiest of these was the Universal Church, The Papacy had been lifted out of the slough of internal corruption and of external dependence on the Roman nobles and German kings. It had under Leo IX., Nicholas II., and Gregory VII. claimed effectively the Headship of the whole Church and the dominion over souls. The spirit of Hildebrand was still upon it as strong as ever, demanding undivided allegiance of all clerics and a supremacy over the cure of souls which threatened the temporal powers everywhere, and still ready to assert the superiority of the Church over the State, The monastic orders, especially those of Cluny, Ci» teaux, and Pr6montr6, everywhere were its de- voted servants and formed a universal support to its theocratic claims. The common people of the West felt a yet unspoiled devotion towards the Head of the Church, The kingdom of France, which, in politics, was of the future, as the German Empire was of the past, had since the days of Leo IX., been growing into a bulwark for the Popes in their difficulties and was the first asylum to **which**

they turned. In spite of the breach made between Emperor and Pope by the wars of Investiture the Bishop of Rome could still appeal to the German sword to maintain him in power, for still the Church and the Empire were comp'ements of another in universal belief, and no Teutonic Mag was Emperor till he had done the " Rome-journey[f>]